

THE SIGN

MARCH 2018

St Cuthbert's endeavours to be a community in which all are encouraged to participate in worshipping God and serving the wider community. It welcomes those who are doubters and sceptics as well as those who are committed in faith, and has a particular concern for those who have been hurt by their experiences of life.



Dear Friends,

Two weeks into Lent, I hope you are managing to get some time in the wilderness, to spend time with God to deepen your relationship. Too often, we are so busy with work, family, friends that the day passes and we may not have even given God a thought. We may turn to God when the going gets tough but we must remember to turn to God to give thanks for all the joy and happiness in our lives too.

To help us focus, during Lent it is traditional to fast. The days of a food fast may be in the past, as people fast from Facebook, Twitter, IT, television etc. I prefer the fast of Pope Francis:

Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
Fast from worries and have trust in God.
Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.
Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

What a wonderful world we would live in if this was the case –
God's Kingdom.

I am in the final process of getting a visiting team together to assist me in the pastoral care of the congregation. Those involved will be licenced on Sunday, March 18th, when the bishop visits for a Celebration of Lay Ministry. I do hope you are able to join us.

(To assist me in helping you, it would be useful if you could let me know if you are sick or in hospital, so that we can keep you in our prayers and I can arrange a visit if necessary.)

And don't forget that Prof Paul Foster, Head of the School of Divinity at Edinburgh University, will be giving the St. Cuthbert's Lecture on Tuesday, March 6th on the Apocryphal Gospels. Some of you may remember Paul, as he covered a service during the vacancy.

Additional services continue throughout Lent and I hope you are able to join us at some time.

Love and blessings. Nicki

Morning Prayer

10am

Mondays through Lent

Reflective Services

Each Wednesday through Lent at 7pm

21st February – 28th March 2018

Be still
and know
that I am
 *God*
-PSALM 46:10

St. Cuthbert's Lecture

**Tuesday 6th March 2018
7pm**

Followed by refreshments

St. Cuthbert's Scottish Episcopal Church
Colinton

Professor Paul Foster

Head of the School of Divinity
University of Edinburgh

The Apocryphal Gospels

Mission Shaped Intro Lent Study Group -

February 20th – March 27th

Our world and our lives change at an ever-faster pace, but how can the church respond to this change? Are new ways of engaging with people and being church in the 21st century possible?

If so, what might they look like?

Mission Shaped Intro is a creative six session course using videos and stories to help explore mission and church life in our current context. With space for small group discussion, it is a great opportunity to come together as a community to find ways of making church relevant in today's society.

Facilitated by the Rev Annie Naish, Bishop's Enabler of Mission.

We are very privileged that Annie is able to give us time during Lent, so I would be very grateful if as many people as possible could make an effort to attend and help St. Cuthbert's form a vision for our future.

(Attendance every week is preferable but not essential). Nicki

Bishop's Lent Appeal

It has been suggested that this year we have small jars to use as money boxes to collect for the Bishop's Lent Appeal. Jars will be available from the beginning of Lent and they should be returned on Easter Sunday.... You can of course use a larger jar if you prefer!

Please consider taking one and using it as part of what you do during Lent.

St. Cuthbert's
Scottish Episcopal Church
Colinton

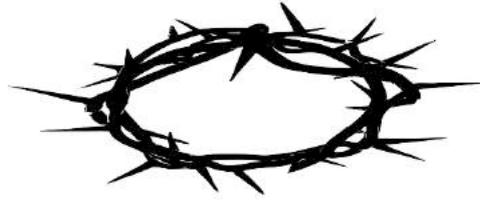


9.30am

**Last Wednesday
of the month**

Join us to pray for the life, work and
witness of our church

Young Folk



Come and experience Easter
Good Friday
10.30am



Stories, Songs, Food,
Activities

(even for parents, grandparents or
friends)



The background of the top section is a vibrant, stylized illustration of a sunrise. A large, glowing yellow sun is partially obscured by a green horizon line, with rays of light radiating upwards. The overall color palette is warm, featuring shades of yellow, orange, and green.

Easter Day Service of Light 7am

Followed by croissants

*Christ
is
Risen!*

From the Archivist 2

The Story of the Episcopal Church

The Church in Scotland, established in 1560 at the Reformation not only wished to 'purify' worship but set out, with the help of the lay authorities, to 'purify' the morals and behaviour of its members. In England these people became known as Puritans.

The Town Council of Edinburgh passed laws restricting activities on the Sabbath. Their purpose was to ensure that everyone attended the sermons held in the morning and afternoon. Thus in 1586 they issued the rule:

- no booths (market stalls) to be open on the Sabbath
- no work to be done at any time of day
- no markets to be held

(later this was extended to Monday as many from distant country areas had to set out on the Sabbath.)

- no taverns to be open for the selling of wine and ale
- no cooks to sell food during the time of preaching
- no one was allowed to play games

Even during the high point of Episcopal power after the Restoration of Charles II in 1660 Church Sessions continued to enforce strict Sabbatarian laws. 'Searchers' patrolled the streets seeking out those people who were breaking the Sabbath. Thus in 1694 Mary Patown was rebuked by South Leith Session for picking kale on the Sabbath.

While in England the reigns of Elizabeth I and James I (1560-1625) represented a golden age for the theatre producing playwrights like William Shakespeare, Christopher Marlowe and Ben Jonson. London at this time contained a number of theatres set mainly on the South Bank.

In Edinburgh, even a century later plans to open theatres met with the determined opposition of the Town Council and the clergy. By the middle of the 18th century the strict Presbyterian stranglehold on Scottish society and culture was beginning to relax. However, in 1756 a great scandal occurred when it was discovered that the most successful play of the day –The Tragedy of Douglas– was written by John Home, a Presbyterian clergyman.

John Peacock our Archivist has been researching the history of the Scottish Episcopal Church in Edinburgh. This will be in the Sign during the next few months.

VESTRY REPORT

January 2018 Vestry

- The in memoriam book has been updated and returned from the calligrapher and is in the Church
- The Treasurer had emailed Vestry the accounts for the 3 months to the end of December 2017. No queries were raised.
- Vestry expressed their thanks for the thorough report from the property committee
- Vestry discussed the choir vestry roof repair and refurbishment of the choir vestry
- The Rector reported that she is to begin the Canon 35 application process for the new speaker installation needed when the new Church doors are installed
- Vestry agreed the appointment of Julian Jefferson to the role of Music Director
- The Rector is to begin the application for a Curate to start in September 2019 and informed Vestry that St Cuthbert's is to get an Ordinand from Advent to Lent 2018-2019
- The Rector talked Vestry through the list of services and events taking place during Lent, Holy week and Easter
- The St Cuthbert's lecture "The Apocryphal Gospels" will be given by Professor Paul Foster, Head of School of Divinity, University of Edinburgh on Tuesday 6th March at 7pm
- The Rector informed Vestry that we are to have Fischy Music for an event to launch the Play Church, possibly on a Sunday afternoon at the beginning of September
- Joan reminded Vestry that there are new guidelines on Health and Safety and new laws for Data Protection that we must comply with, from May

The full minutes are available in the folder at the back of the Church. An electronic version can be requested by email, contact: julia.roberts01@btinternet.com

PSALM LXXX – Magister still in auditorium [or Donald’s Ditty]

1. In nineteen-thirty-eight Donald was | born in | Sunderland: then his family moved to Colinton so father could sell | mus-tard | to the | Scots.
2. Seventy years ago Vernon Johnson preached | to the | adults : and Donald joined the | choir and | Sunday | School.
3. On weekdays Rosemary took the shoogly tram to Watson’s Ladies’ College * and Donald to | Wat-son’s | primary: where he learned | rugby and | how to play | tennis.
4. In Church his soprano voice soared | to the | rafters: before drifting | down in | Revrend | Lawson’s time.
5. As a sportsman he | was ter- |rific: playing | tennis, squash | swimming and | cricket.
6. So expert did he become that Watson’s made | him . head | boy: and sent him to | Uni . with a | first class | Classics ticket.
7. His perseverance in Latin and Greek saw him sent to Buckhaven * then to convert the | Li - ber - |tonians: while after hours he played tennis and wore his tartan | tammy . to | rugby | matches.
8. As lead tenor he led St Cuthbert’s choir in Canon Cole’s and Malcolm | Goldsmith’s | days: and in the Merchiston ensemble sported a | bow tie . while | singing | bass.
9. At Liberton he made | such a | mark: they made him Assistant Head * and he con- | tinu-èd to | play | tennis.
10. On Burns night he tinkles ditties from the University Song Book * while on Sundays he pulls out the stops for Goss | Gibbons . and | Howells: but cornets and trumpets he leaves to other | mem-bers |of his | family.
11. Whether choosing carols for Parsons or organists for Sundays he | is a. past |master: as Lennon , Houston and | Sa-rah | did dis- |cover.
12. With Mattins and Evensong responses he is | thoroughly . fa- |miliar: which is helpful to | Nicki . and our | younger | brethren.
13. Whether supporting Brew and a Blether * or on holiday in Peebles | or the | Lake District: Donald will find a piano to entertain those of a | certain | gener- | ation.
14. The days of our age are threescore years and ten * and though men be so strong that they come to | four . score | years: yet are they reminded of their youth by an aggregation of children and | racquet | waving | grandchildren.
- 15.† We hope that having achieved eighty years | and a | bittock: that like Abraham * Donald will continue to sing with us for | ma-ny | more . A- | men.

Written by Archie Clark to celebrate Donald Mackintosh’s 70 years in the choir and sung to him by the choir in church on Sunday 21 January

NOTES FROM THE CHOIR

1 Chronicles 16

7 That day David first appointed Asaph and his associates to give praise to the LORD in this manner:

8 Give praise to the LORD, proclaim his name;
make known among the nations what he has done.

9 Sing to him, sing praise to him;
tell of all his wonderful acts.

10 Glory in his holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.

The tradition of singing psalms in praise of God is from time immemorial. Sing a psalm between the Old Testament and the Epistle readings should encourage us to reflect on God's love and saving grace as well as reiterating the scripture it accompanies. You will have noticed that as from the first Sunday of Lent we are using a responsorial psalm setting to stimulate our reflection and response to God's word during the season of Lent.

Julian Jefferson

CALENDAR FOR MARCH 2018

1st Thursday 2.30pm The Thursday Service

Sunday 4th – Third Sunday of Lent

8.30am Holy Communion

10.30am Sung Eucharist

6.00pm Evensong

5th Monday 10.00am Morning Prayer

6th Tuesday 2 – 3.30pm Mission Shaped Intro

Lent Study Group

7.00pm St Cuthbert's Lecture –

The Apocryphal Gospels

7th Wednesday 10.30am Holy Communion

4.00pm The St Raphael's Prayer Group

7.00pm Reflective Worship

8th Thursday 2.30pm The Thursday Service

Sunday 11th – Fourth Sunday of Lent / Mothering Sunday

		8.30am	Holy Communion
		10.30am	Sung Eucharist
12 th	Monday	10.00am	Morning Prayer
14 th	Wednesday	2.00pm	Service at Cairdean
		3.00pm	Service at Thorburn Manor
		7.00pm	Reflective Worship
15 th	Thursday	2.30pm	The Thursday Service

Sunday 18th – Fifth Sunday of Lent

		8.30am	Holy Communion
		10.30am	Sung Eucharist
19 th	Monday	10.00am	Morning Prayer
20 th	Tuesday	2 – 3.30pm	Mission Shaped Intro Lent Study Group
20 th	Tuesday	7.30pm	Vestry
21 st	Wednesday	10.30am	Holy Communion
		7.00pm	Reflective Worship
22 nd	Thursday	2.30pm	The Thursday Service

Sunday 25th – Palm Sunday

		8.30am	Holy Communion
		10.30am	Sung Eucharist
26 th	Monday	10.00am	Morning Prayer
		7.00pm	Compline
27 th	Tuesday	2 – 3.30pm	Mission Shaped Intro Lent Study Group
		7.00pm	Compline
28 th	Wednesday	9.30am	Prayer for the life, work and witness of St. Cuthbert's
		10.30am	Holy Communion
		7.00pm	Reflective Worship
29 th	Thursday	2.30pm	The Thursday Service
		7.00pm	Maundy Thursday Service – Sung Eucharist and washing of feet

30th Friday - Good Friday

		10.30am	Service for children
		12pm – 3pm	Three hour vigil

1st April – Easter Sunday

7.00am	Dawn Service
8.30am	Holy Communion
10.30am	Sung Eucharist

READINGS FOR MARCH

Sunday 4th – Third Sunday of Lent

First Reading	Exodus 20:1-17
Psalm	19
Second Reading	1 Corinthians 1:18-25
Gospel	John 2:13-22

Sunday 11th – Fourth Sunday of Lent /Mothering Sunday

First Reading	Numbers 21:4-9
Psalm	107:1-3, 17-22
Second Reading	Ephesians 2:1-10
Gospel	John 3:14-21

Sunday 18th - Fifth Sunday of Lent

First Reading	Ezekiel 34:11-16
Psalm	23
Second Reading	Corinthians 6:1-10
Gospel	Matthew 18:12-14

Sunday 25th – Palm Sunday

Liturgy of the Palms	Mark 11:1-11
First Reading	Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm	31:9-16
Second Reading	Philippians 2:5-11
Gospel	Mark 15

Thursday 29th – Maundy Thursday

First Reading	Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14
Psalm	116:1-2, 12-16
Second Reading	1 Corinthians 11:23-26
Gospel	John 13:1-17, 31b-35

READINGS FOR APRIL

Year B

Sunday 1st – Easter

First Reading Acts 10:34-43

Gospel John 20:1-18

FLOWER ARRANGERS' NEWS

We are now in the season of Lent when traditionally the church is not decorated with flowers.

In preparation for the celebrations on Easter Sunday, the church will be decorated on Saturday 31 March. If you would like to come along to help, please let me know, you would be made most welcome.

Margaret Holmes

Green milk bottle tops

18 months ago I mentioned in passing to someone that I collected green plastic milk bottle tops to send to an organisation that could use them to raise funds for cancer patients.

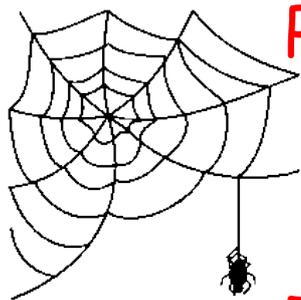
Now I rarely leave church without bags of green tops, donated to help. I rattle all the way to coffee !

Initially the collectors sold on the tops to support a cancer ward in Borders General Hospital, then a ward in Glasgow, but more recently the group has supported Marie Curie and Macmillan Home Care by about £12,000 since 2015.

The tops are sold on to be ground down and used to manufacture the sheathing for fibre optic cables. Recent research is looking at using them in road surfacing. In every way this reduces landfill and is obviously eco-friendly.

So, before you throw your green bottle tops into the bin, stop and bring them to church instead and give them to me. They will go to a very good cause, cancer care.

Hilary Pritchard



Please join us

2-4pm

Saturday 31st March

To spring clean the church

Coffee, tea & cake provided

Bring any gadgets or cloths you may have
to access high cobwebs, low cobwebs or
dusty window sills

If you are not able to clean, come and
help with the refreshments

Let's gather together as the community
of St. Cuthbert's and prepare our place of
worship for His resurrection

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

2 March 2018, 10.30am at

St Mark's RC Church

All God's Creation is Very Good!

The theme for the Suriname worship service urges us to evaluate how our actions affect our planet - one of our Lord's greatest creations.

The environmental crisis is also a crisis of global justice. God's justice always meant loving and sacrificial self-giving. We, as Christians cannot be silent. We live with the hope and belief that people have the means, and increasingly, the will to focus on justice, peace, and the integrity of creation.

To recycle is to give a new use to objects, thus reducing the consumption of resources that may degrade the planet. We may use the way we do WDP activities to educate and campaign for climate justice.

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE!

CHRISTIAN AID

Christian Aid in Colinton have been supporting two projects in Malawi for a few years. Both have now come to an end, and we have just signed up for a new partnership in Ghana.

I must confess that the only thing I knew about Ghana dates from my Primary School education when we learned that all the cocoa used by Cadbury's was grown there. Cocoa is still the chief agricultural export and is the country's main cash crop. Ghana is the second largest cocoa exporter in the world.

Ghana is about the same size as the UK, but the population is much smaller (UK 65.6 million; Ghana 28 million). In the UK youth unemployment is running at 12.2%, but in Ghana 48% of the country's young people (15–24) have no job.

The problem is worst in coastal regions where industrial vessels illegally fish off Ghana's coastline. The resulting poor fishing closer inshore now means traditional job opportunities are becoming scarce.

The new partnership is focussed on creating jobs, giving training, and increasing environmentally sustainable economic activities for 15 to 35 year-olds (especially women and those with disabilities).

The Colinton Christian Aid Committee has promised to raise £5,000 (or as near as we can) by the end of 2019 - only 2 years! Our first event to raise funds for this partnership is the Quiz Night. We're hoping to have a Gin Tasting (a first for us!) in the autumn. If any of you have any other ideas, please let us know.

And the good news is that what we raise will be matched 3:1 by the EU, making our **£5,000** worth **£20,000!**

By the way, the Christian Aid Committee is made up of people from both churches in Colinton. I chair the committee, Wendy Pearson is the secretary, and from our Church we also have Margaret Temple and Jean Wood. We are always looking for other people so, if you are interested either in joining the committee, or in offering help at a particular event, please get in touch. Patricia Brignall

Quiz Night

Saturday 3 March 7.15pm – 10.15pm

The Church Hall

Organise a team of no more than 8 people.

Tickets **£9 each** (includes supper)

Contact **Patricia Brignall**

SHALOM (In the presence of God)

We seek to provide a 'sacred space';

a space to reflect, to pray; a space to find peace, stillness and refreshment. Our meetings are usually on the last Saturday of each month. We meet from 10am to 11am in the Lady Chapel. Our usual pattern is to start with a short welcome/stilling exercise then 20 minutes of shared silence or a reading and reflection and finishing with a prayer of thanks. Everyone is welcome to suggest new ways of exploring, sharing and praying together. It's an enriching part of the life of the church and a way of encouraging one another to grow in our spiritual lives. We often end with coffee, cake and a chat!

February will have been busy

As I write Marion Goldsmith is preparing her presentation

for our 10am meeting on Saturday 24th February -

Shalom Group are also doing a presentation at the 7pm Wednesday service for Lent.

31st March – we meet at 10am for Passover and Easter Saturday

Contact Jean Myers for further details

The next event will be Friday 4th May to Sunday 6th

a Weekend Retreat at the Cathedral of the Isles – Cumbrae

This will be led by Amanda Wright. See Marion Goldsmith for further details.

Jean Myers

THE OPEN FORUM

Topics from Adrian Smith's book "Tomorrows Christians; A Framework for Christian Living".

4th March: The Free Person Facilitator, Marion Goldsmith
Wendy Stewart

PHOENIX GROUP

We very much look forward to Dr John Gooding's Talk entitled "Russia : 1917 and Now".

We have no other events planned at the moment and would welcome suggestions for future gatherings and events, at which all women in the congregation are welcome. We are also happy to organise events, like John's talk which are open to all in the congregation. Please make any suggestions to Jean Myers, Margaret Temple or myself. Margaret Kieran

THE LEPROSY MISSION SCOTLAND

Thank you for all the returned boxes and donations which I've received so far. I will send a cheque for the total amount at the beginning of March.

In the Prayer Diary for March you can read about the work of The Leprosy Mission in England and Wales, India and Nigeria - all very different countries with different approaches and support networks. Thank you for your ongoing support of TLMS. Barbara Tatlock

A Brew & A Blether

Join us on Saturday 3 March between 2.00 & 4.00 pm

for a cup of tea, a piece of cake, a natter

and perhaps a game of Scrabbl

The Abbey Summer School, Edinburgh 31st May - 2nd June 2018

The Abbey Summer School offers Christian teaching and nourishment to all who like to think about their faith. This year the theme is 'For Glory and For Beauty: Creativity and the Church' and the theologians and speakers will include Iwan Russell-Jones, Sharon Jebb Smith, Phil Archer, Julie Taylor, and Graham Pritz-Bennett. The course is excellent and will give you a time for spiritual guidance, a time in Scripture, theology, and prayer, a time for laughter and for music, for worship and reflection, a time to be at rest, and for interaction and discussion.

For more information and how to enrol on the course, please go to: <https://www.abbeysummerschool.com/>

Laura Ogilvie Jones

THE SIGN Subscriptions

The annual subscription for THE SIGN is £10, £16 if you want THE SIGN posted to you. Cheques should be made payable to St Cuthbert's Church and handed in or sent to The Rectory, 6 Westgarth Avenue, Edinburgh EH13 0BD. Thanks to all our regular subscribers. We value your support.

St Cuthbert's Episcopal Church
Westgarth Avenue, Colinton, Edinburgh EH13 0BD
Phone: 0131 441 7580
Email: stcuthbertsrector@gmail.com

Website: www.stcuthbertscolinton.org.uk

Usual Sunday Services

8.30am Holy Communion

10.30am Sung Eucharist

A sung service, with sermon

Children & Young People during term-time

Mattins on occasion (see notices)

6.00pm Evensong

On the first Sunday of each month

Weekday Services

Wednesdays

10.30am Holy Communion followed by coffee

Thursdays

2.30pm The Thursday Service

A short Ecumenical service designed with elderly people in mind. Followed by tea.

Scottish Charity Number: SC007578